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REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Examiner's Office Action dated 10/22/2004. Independent claims 1, 2, and 14 have been amended for clarification purposes without adding new matter. Support for the amendment can be found in lines 11-17 of page 26 of the "Description of the Preferred Embodiments" section. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the remarks that follow.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-22 are pending.

Claims 1-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hyllander et al. (WO 99/12365).

OVERVIEW OF CLAIMED INVENTION

The presently claimed invention provides for a speech communication service providing system comprising a server (connected to the Internet) and a call control unit of speech communications. The server comprises: (A) a module of generating, when receiving a piece of first address information as a piece of address information of a destination of a speech communication from a terminal device, a piece of call identifying information corresponding to the first address information; (B) a module of storing the call identifying information and the first address information; (C) a module of notifying the terminal device of the call identifying information and second address information as a piece of address information of the control unit; and (D) a module of notifying, when receiving the call identifying information from the control unit, if the same call identifying information is stored in the storing module, the control unit of

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the first address information corresponding thereto. The control unit comprises: (a) a module of inquiring of, when receives a call including a call identifying information from the terminal device, the terminal device transmitting the call using the second address information received from the server, the server about the first address information corresponding to the call identifying information included in the call; and (b) a module of performing, when receiving the corresponding first address from the server, processes in order that the call from the terminal device arrives at another terminal device corresponding to the first address information. The piece of call identifying information is information to judge whether the call from the terminal is incorrect or not, and when said control unit can not receive the first address information corresponding to the call identifying information from the server, said control unit does not respond to the call assuming that the call is incorrect.

The presently claimed invention also provides for a speech communication service providing system comprising a server (connected to the Internet), first and second access points to the Internet (wherein the first and second access points are connected via a route where a predetermined quality of communications is ensured), and first and second terminal devices each having an Internet connecting module and an Internet telephony module and being connected respectively to said first and second access points. The server comprises: (A) a generating module of generating, when receiving a piece of first address information as a piece of address information of said second terminal device from said first terminal device, call identifying information corresponding to the first address information; (B) a module of storing the call identifying information and the first address information; (C) a module of notifying said first terminal device of the call identifying information and second address information as a piece of address information of said first access point; and (D) a module of notifying, when receiving the Page 13 of 17

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call identifying information from said first access point and if the same call identifying information is stored in said storing module, said first access point of the first address information corresponding thereto. The first access point comprises: (a) a module of inquiring of, when receiving a call including the call identifying information from said first terminal device, said first terminal device transmitting the call using the second address information received from said server, said server about the first address information corresponding to the call identifying information contained in this call; and (b) a module of performing, when receiving the corresponding first address information from said server, processes in order that the call from said first terminal device arrives at said second terminal device corresponding to the first address information via the special route and said second access point. The piece of call identifying information is information to judge whether the call from the terminal is incorrect or not, and when said control unit can not receive the first address information corresponding to the call identifying information from the server, said control unit does not respond to the call assuming that the call is incorrect.

In the Claims

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hyllander et al. (WO 99/12365). To be properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), each and every element of the claims must be addressed through known prior art or be recognized as an obvious variation thereof. Applicant contends that the Hyllander reference, or obvious variations in the teachings of the Hyllander reference, fails to provide for many of the limitations of applicant's claimed invention.

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As noted above, independent claims 1, 2, and 14 have been amended to clarify applicant's invention. Specifically, it is clarified that the piece of call identifying information is information to judge whether the call from the terminal is incorrect or not. It is also clarified that when the control unit cannot receive the first address information corresponding to the call identifying information from the server, the control unit does not respond to the call assuming that the call is incorrect. Support for the amendment can be found in lines 11-17 of page 26 of the "Description of the Preferred Embodiments" section (or paragraph 127 of the published patent application), a copy of which is provided below for the examiner's convenience:

"If the call identifying information received by the telephone control unit 13A when receiving the call is invalid, the server 14 is not stored with that piece of call identifying information and therefore sends back to the telephone control unit 13A a notification (NG notification) that the call identifying information is "NG (No Good) (invalid)" as a substitute for the corresponding telephone number (step S10-4)."

The primary reference, Hyllander et al., teach a communication system, adapted to establish connections to, and between, Internet users, including a cellular radio communication network adapted to provide a short message service (SMS), and a server adapted to facilitate the establishment of a telephony/Internet connection between a mobile subscriber station of said network and an Internet user. Hyllander et al. further teach using SMS to transfer, from the mobile subscriber station to the server, information identifying the Internet address for the Internet user and, from the server to the mobile subscriber station, information relating to the required connection between the mobile subscriber station and the Internet user.

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With respect to independent claims 1, 2, and 14, on page 4 of the office action of 10/22/2004, the examiner states that "Hyllander does not explicitly disclose generating call identifying (call or message ID) information corresponding to the call of the first address. It is well known and would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Hyllander to assign identification information to a call (or call ID) so the system can efficiently keep[s] track and manage[s] different call messages between a plurality of callers and call recipients in an Internet Telephony network."

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the examiner's statement as the present invention addresses the prevention of invalid access to the control unit, a limitation of claims 1, 2, and 14 that is neither taught nor suggested by the Hyllander reference. Applicant, therefore, contends that the present invention is clearly distinguished over the Hyllander reference and is nontrivial in that the call identifying information of the present invention prevents invalid access to the control unit.

The above-mentioned arguments with respect to independent claims 1, 2, and 14 substantially apply to dependent claims 3-13 and 15-22 as they inherit all the limitations of the claim from which they depend.

Hence, applicant contends that the Hyllander reference, or obvious variations in the teachings of the Hyllander reference, fails to provide for many of the limitations of the applicant's claimed invention (e.g., the prevention of invalid access to the control unit). Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests the examiner to withdraw the rejections with respect to pending claim 1-22.

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SUMMARY

As has been detailed above, none of the references, cited or applied, provide for the specific claimed details of applicant's presently claimed invention, nor renders them obvious. It is believed that this case is in condition for allowance and reconsideration thereof and early issuance is respectfully requested.

This Amendment is being filed with a Petition for Extension of Time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the petition fee, as well as any deficiencies in the fees provided to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

If it is felt that an interview would expedite prosecution of this application, please do not hesitate to contact applicant's representative at the below number.

Respectfully submitted,

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